AND HEALTH NEWSLETTER

Peru: REO Participated in CONDESAN's Workshops on Adaptation to Climate Change in the Andean Region By Adriana Quevedo

Specialists from Venezuela, Ecuador, Colombia, Bolivia, and Peru discussed climate variability and different models used to simulate possible scenarios which might result from a 1-3°C climate variation.

Results were very different depending on the model used because they employ different type of data, making difficult to design adaptation or mitigation programs in an accurate manner. For this reason, specialists highlighted the importance of prioritizing research, and strengthening scientific networks in

the short-term to improve monitoring in the long-term. In another presentation, the importance of water conservation in these zones was emphasized, as they are experiencing changes in rainfall patterns, contributing to the precarious existence of small farmers who work these lands. Waterresources are also vital for Andes biodiversity conservation, and it is necessary to create more

protected areas and interconnect them in order to enhance water resource monitoring because sometimes different ecosystems depend on the same hydric source. COP 16: Nations walk the talk to heal the world

Almost 200 nations agreed today to modest steps to combat climate change, including a new fund to help poor countries, and put off major disputes until 2011 and beyond. "This is a new era of international cooperation on climate change," Mexican Foreign Minister Patricia

The deal, reached at marathon overnight talks, comprises a plan to

the deadlock between rich and poor countries.

legally binding accord.

stronger hurricanes.

term funds by 2020.

tive to their needs.

sus.

ways to share clean energy technologies and help developing nations adapt to climate change. It also reaffirms a goal of raising an annual \$100 billion in aid for poor countries by 2020 and sets a target of limiting a rise in average world temperatures to below 2 degrees Celsius (3.6F) over pre-industrial times. "The most important thing is that the multilateral process has received a shot in the arm, it had reached an historic low. It will fight another day," said Indian Environment Minister Jairam Ramesh. "It could yet fail."

Read more at: http://business-standard.com/india/storypage.php?autono=417932

The new pacts envision eventual rules for measuring planet-heating pollution. They would also fund efforts in the most vulnerable countries to combat the effects of rising sea levels, longer droughts and

Espinosa told delegates at the end of two weeks of talks after breaking

The talks had lowered expectations after US President Barack Obama and other world leaders failed to agree on a treaty at a summit in Copenhagen last year. Cancun sets no firm deadlines for an elusive

said of the EU contribution to avert what the UN panel of climate scientists says will be more floods, droughts, desertification, mudslides and rising ocean levels. Espinosa banged down her gavel on Saturday's accord despite objections by Bolivia, which wanted to demand far deeper cuts in greenhouse gases by rich nations, saying their climate policies were causing "genocide" with 300,000 deaths a year.

Britain's energy and climate secretary Chris Huhne said that Cancun made it more likely that the European Union would toughen cuts in greenhouse gas emissions, to 30 per cent below 1990 levels from a current 20 per cent. "I think it definitely makes an agreement on 30 per cent in the EU more likely," he

Delegates from 190 countries ended two weeks of diplomatic brinksmanship over climate change Saturday in a stalemate between rich and poor countries over cutting greenhouse gas emissions, but they pledged to move forward on a set of broad technical measures.

The Cancun Agreements, crafted by some 9,000 delegates attending the talks at a Mexican seaside resort, rescued the 20-year climate negotiations from what appeared to be imminent collapse after last year's Copenhagen talks ended in recriminations. China and other nations accused the U.S. of failing to seriously negotiate and then pushing a last-minute nonbinding accord without a broad consen-

About 3 a.m. Saturday, Mexico President Felipe Calderon emerged from the cavernous negotiation hall to hail the summit as a "thoroughgoing success." The Cancun Agreements, he said, lifted "the in-

U.N. pacts contain small steps but no broad accord on climate change

ertia of mistrust" that had threatened to paralyze the effort. President Obama called Calderon to congratulate him on "Mexico's excellent work chairing the Cancun conference to a successful conclusion that ... advances the effort to address the challenge of climate change," the White House said in a statement. The package of agreements reiterates a promise made by industrial countries in Copenhagen for \$30 billion in "fast start" money over the next two years to help poor and vulnerable countries defend

themselves against climate-related damage. And it includes the intention to raise \$100 billion in long-

However, the dispersal of the fast-start money remains unresolved, with industrial countries preferring to use the World Bank to make payments. Poor countries say the bank is inefficient and inatten-

The Cancun Agreements also include plans for a broad system to prevent the cutting and burning of

tropical forests, which are responsible for up to 15% of the world's carbon dioxide emissions.

Read more at: http://www.latimes.com/news/local/la-me-climate-cancun-20101212,0,6973259.story

ing environment not as a barrier, but as an opportunity to become more competitive. This is what is mentioned at the TEEB (Economy of the Ecosystems and Biodiversity) report from June 2010. It says that one out of every four CEO's from global enterprises considers biological diversity as fundamental for business sustainability over the long term; while in Latin America and Africa, two out of four think that biodiver-

need of more experts that would be able to make these kinds of speech".

From deforestation in Guatemala to the effects of mining in Colombia, a new atlas produced by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) uses satellite images to highlight the most pressing environ-

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educativa-ambiental-aun-es-palida?

Green Labor Market is moving ahead, yet professional education in this area is still weak By George Simmons The break point in public and private business policies entails consider-

sity is crucial for business sustainability. A necessary condition to reach this perspective is to introduce the economic variable on environmental speeches while, at the same time, ensure that investment projects take into consideration environmental perspectives. "For a long time,

environmental speeches tried to engage with political and business decision makers from a different viewpoint" says Fernando Leon, General Director for the Direction of Evaluation, Valuation, and Financing of the Natural Heritage from the Ministry of Environment. "It was a speech from a mostly moral viewpoint. Today we know that what is really effective is to express the value of biodiversity according to precise quantifications, to offer the political and economic agents numbers over which they could make out the costs and benefits of a decision that takes into account the environment compared to one that does not. It was necessary to talk their language. This is a plausible solution to the environmental disquiet, as it will modify the labor market in the medium term, which in turn will lead to the

Read more at: http://semanaeconomica.com/articulos/61555-se-inicia-el-cambio-en-el-mercado-laboral-verde-pero-la-oferta-

UN atlas charts environmental changes in Latin America and Caribbean

mental issues in Latin America and the Caribbean. The images show that the region's richness of environments, ecosystems, species and landscapes is under considerable pressure from economic development models that, while leading to growth, have also The atlas covers environmental change produced significant social and environmental changes - from rapid O'Higgins Glacier in Chile (above). Image: UNEP urbanization, often without adequate planning. 'Latin America and the Caribbean - Atlas of our changing environment' represents the first effort to analyze changes taking place in the region's environment, combining precise and striking satellite images with analysis based on rigorous data. "The Atlas is an indispensable tool in formulating the future actions and public policies needed to

land birds, which play an important role by dispersing seeds and controlling insects, are also rapidly declining in Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay. In order to reverse this trend, the Convention on Migratory Species of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP/CMS), in collaboration with BirdLife International and Asociación Guyra Paraguay,

ivecommons.org/ns |ture/3165874880/"

Paraguay: New hope for migratory grassland birds of South America

In addition the natural grasslands are being converted into pastures for cattle and meat export to the world's markets and pastures are frequently burnt to accelerate the food supply for grazing cattle. The afforestation of pampas with Eucalyptus and pine trees also contributes to widespread habitat loss. This monoculture of non-endemic trees drains valuable wetlands, crucial for species conservation, to satisfy the global demand for paper.

The grassland bird species covered under the CMS agreement are highly-prized as caged song birds

A major priority of the CMS action plan is protecting and managing the habitats for these migratory grassland birds. New protected areas will be identified to create a viable network of ecosystems and

which have been illegally captured and kept in cages in private households all over the world.

the conservation of the birds needs to be included in their management plans.

Peru: Rare Bird Protected by Groundbreaking Land Deal

ganization and one of the key supporters of the acquisitions.

Rivera Gonzales, the head of Allpahuayo Mishana National Reserve.

conducting environmental education), among others.

elevated to a National Reserve in 2004.

live.

(Washington, D.C., December 9, 2010) For the first time in Peru, conservationists have purchased privately owned lands within a national protected area and then donated them to the national government. Twentynine privately owned properties totaling 1,196 acres within Peru's Allpahuayo Mishana National Reserve were donated on December 1 to SER-

Agriculture, in particular the cultivation of soya, has put these important ecosystems at risk as pollution from pesticides and other agrochemicals are carried by drainage and run-off directly into marshes and

"This Reserve is one of the most important places for birds in Peru, supporting a community of 19 bird species, and is the only home for the Critically Endangered Iquitos Gnatcatcher," said Dr. Daniel Lebbin,

Conservation Biologist with American Bird Conservancy (ABC), the leading U.S. bird conservation or-

When the Allpahuayo Mishana National Reserve was created, much of the land remained under private ownership. Continued timber extraction, charcoal production, and land clearance for agriculture on privately owned in-holdings within the reserve continue to damage the reserve's forests and reduce habitat for its threatened wildlife. The protected area was first declared as a Reserve Zone in 1999, and

With support from ABC, ConocoPhillips, the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF), and the Robert W. Wilson Charitable Trust, ProNaturaleza (a leading Peruvian conservation organization) purchased the land from willing sellers in the eastern portion of the Reserve where Iquitos Gnatcatchers

"The donation of this land to SERNANP allows us to better manage it for conservation," said Carlos F.

To achieve this success, ProNaturaleza worked in cooperation with a coalition including SERNANP and other environmental groups, such as Friends of Allpahuayo Mishana (ACAAM) and CANATURA (a group

Source: www.abcbirds.org COP 16: 2010 Cancun Agreement People with experience in international meetings convoking more than 200 countries know that these meetings always reach a minimum agreement. What was obtained the early morning of Saturday De-

cember 11 -although the final text was not published yet- apparently exceeds expectations which were low until Friday, including ours, despite the arduous reluctance of Bolivia. Everybody knew that the two

at Cancun. According to the newspapers, the head of the Brazilian delegation, Minister of Environment Izabella Teixeira graded the conference with a 7,5. President Lula Da Silva did not attend this encounter probably because he did not expect a spectacular result. Brazil is one of the countries with more conser-

19th Caribbean Geological Conference in Guadeloupe. March, 2011

The information contained herein was gathered from news sources from across the region, and the

views expressed below do not necessarily reflect those of the Regional Environmental HUB Office or of our constituent posts.

Addressees interested in sharing any ESTH-related events of USG interest are welcome to do so. For questions or comments, please contact us at quevedoa@state.gov.

achieve more sustainable development in the region," according to UNEP. It is the latest in a series coordinated by UNEP, and the agency's Executive Director Achim Steiner stressed that "the stark reality they portray" can catalyze action on the ground, citing the impact of the African atlas in Mali, where a project to restore the lost Lake Faguibine is now underway.

"It is hoped that this new addition to the growing UNEP stable of atlases can have a strong and positive impact in terms of catalyzing a more sustainable future development path in Latin America and the

Caribbean, and in the life of its people," he writes in a forward to the new map.

Read more at: http://www.energy-enviro.fi/index.php?PAGE=3&NODE ID=5&LANG=1&ID=3434

The rich grasslands in South America, home to one of the world's most valuable ecosystems is fast disappearing and migratory grass-

convened a one-day meeting in Asunción, Paraguay, where Govern-

ment representatives, scientists and conservationists adopted an action plan for urgent conservation measures to ensure the survival

cultural activities as well as the timber industry.

Source: United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

wetlands.

of these birds and their habitats. CMS Executive Secretary Elizabeth Maruma Mrema said: 'The CMS action plan does not only address threats to migratory grassland birds in South America. By preserving their habitat, we safeguard many other endangered species. At the same time we help mitigating climate change because it aims to conserve the grasslands that produce oxygen and act as carbon sinks.' Grassland birds are the gardeners of this formerly rich ecosystem. However, their habitats in Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay have been destroyed in recent years due to agricultural and aqua-

NANP, the government agency that administers national protected areas. The donated lands are home to the Iquitos Gnatcatcher, a Critically Endangered bird first described in 2005. TROPICAL GNATCATCHER (Poliptila Plumbea.) The 143,500-acre Allpahuayo Mishana National Reserve is located only reativecommons.org/ns#" about="http://www.flickr.com/p pixculture/3165874880/">http://www.flickr.com/p 15 miles from the city of Iquitos in northern Peru, protecting rare whitesand forests that are home to rare and unique plants and animals.

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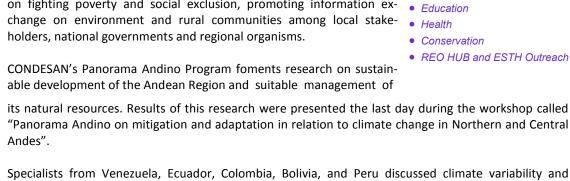
Read more at: http://www.asiacomentada.com.br/2010/12/acordo-conseguido-em-cancun-no-cop-16-mxico-2010/

vation areas, having dramatically reduced deforestation, and expects help from REDD.

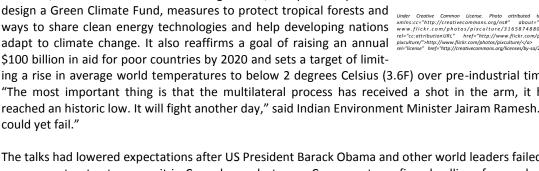
most polluting countries, China and the United States, were avoiding clear engagements, which made Japan to assume a radical position against simply extending the Kyoto Protocol. Some countries, including Brazil, pursued bilateral conversation through their delegates to avoid failure

By Paulo Yokota

Jan 3-6, 2011 ECPA Specialist Dr. Galloway visits Lima to discuss water resource management. Jan 3-7, 2011 International Summer Science Summit. Lima-Peru. Feb 9-12, 2011 International Congress "Environment and Society. National, Regional, and International Approach to Climate Change", Cusco-Peru.



REO Director Indran Amirthanayagam and Assistant Adriana Quevedo Environment attended a series of conferences organized by NGO CONDESAN Global Warming (Consorcio para el Desarrollo Sostenible de la Ecorregión Andina) from Science November 16 through 18, at the Centro Internacional de la Papa in Lima Technology -Peru. CONDESAN presented their work in the Andean Region focused Energy on fighting poverty and social exclusion, promoting information ex-



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